

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
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FM AMEMBASSY BERN
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INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
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AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERN 0299

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR GR TU CY
SUBJ: GREECE-TURKEY DISPUTES ON CYPRUS AND AEGEAN

REF: (A) 77 BERN 5916; (B) BERN 151 (C) 77 STATE 309077

1. SUMMARY: TURKISH EMBASSY FIRST SECY
SIBAY JAN 14 GAVE EMBOFF FOLLOWING UP-DATE ON GREEK-
TURKISH DISPUTES AS SEEN BY TURKISH EMBASSY BERN. END SUMMARY.

2. MEETINGS: AMB BILGE MET TWICE WITH NEW GREEK FONMIN
IN BRUSSELS DURING DEC. GREEKS APPEARED UNDERSTANDING AND
SOME PROGRESS WAS MADE ON CYPRUS. HOWEVER, GREEK FONMIN WAS
TOTALLY UNPREPARED ON AEGEAN WHICH WAS DISAPPOITING TO TURKS.
FORMATION NEW TURKISH GOVT CAUSED POSTPONEMENT JAN AEGEAN TALKS
IN PARIS. GREEKS PROPOSED NEW DATE FEB 5 BUT ANKARA
PREFERS FEB 21 TO GIVE NEW GOVT TIME TO STUDY
POSITIONS. TURKS BELIEVE GREEKS WILL ACCEPT LATER DATE.

3. CYPRUS: ECEVIT HAS SAID HE IS IN POSITION
TO MAKE CONCESSIONS BECAUSE HE ORDERED TURKISH TROOPS
INTO CYPRUS. SIBAY BELIEVED THIS PROBABLY TRUE.

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SAID ECEVIT WANTS TAKE ADVANTAGE OF FACT CARAMANLIS
CONTINUES IN OFFICE DESPITE LATTER'S PROBLEMS FROM
GROWING OPPOSITION STRENGTH. ECEVIT ASKED WALDHEIM
SET UP MEETING WITH CARAMANLIS. WALDHEIM TO INFORM
CARAMANLIS "ECEVIT WILL MAKE CONCESSIONS ON CYPRUS
AND ALTHOUGH CONCESSIONS FALL SHORT OF GREEK
DESIRES, ECEVIT FEELS HIS PROPOSAL CONTAINS

POSITIVE ELEMENTS THAT SHOULD FORM ACCEPTABLE BASIS ON WHICH TO BEGIN CONCRETE DISCUSSIONS WITH GREEKS." SIBAY SAID ECEVIT ATTACHES GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THIS DEMARCHE THROUGH WALDHEIM.

4. AEGEAN: TURKS FEEL THERE SHOULD BE AGREEMENT FOR JOINT EXPLOITATION OF ENTIRE AEGEAN WITH MINIMUM TERRITORIAL SHELF. WHEREAS TURKEY NOW HAS ABOUT 8 PERCENT OF TERRITORIAL SHELF AND GREEKS 35 PERCENT, BOTH SHOULD HAVE ABOUT 15 PERCENT. FELT TURKS IN GOOD POSITION BECAUSE SISMİK RESULTS SHOWED IMPORTANT MINERAL DEPOSITS IN AREA TURKEY WOULD CONTROL EVEN UNDER GREEK CONCEPT FOR INTERMESHING TERRITORIAL AREAS BETWEEN ISLANDS, AS IN MAP PUBLISHED BY NEUE ZUERCHER ZEITUNG MAR 9, 1977 NO PROGRESS CAN BE REACHED IN AIR TALKS UNTIL TERRITORIAL SEA RESOLVED DESPITE WHAT SOME PEOPLE HAVE SAID ABOUT DESIRABILITY OF TACKLING THIS ISSUE FIRST.

5. US ATTITUDES: THOUGH US NOT INVOLVED IN AEGEAN DISPUTE AS IT IS IN THAT OVER CYPRUS, RELATION OF AEGEAN ISSUE TO CYPRUS AND INVOLVEMENT OF GREECE AND TURKEY SHOULD BE IMPORTANT TO US. SIBAY BELIEVED US COULD PLAY IMPORTANT ROLE AT CRUCIAL STAGE IN AEGEAN TALKS IF US WERE PREPARED TO ACT, BUT EXTREME CAUTION REQUIRED. HE HOPED US ADMINISTRATION WOULD

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RECOMMEND CONGRESS APPROVE DCA AND COMMENTED THAT IT SEEMS LOBBIES HAVE GAINED DISPROPORTIONATE INFLUENCE IN US SYSTEM ON QUESTIONS INVOLVING NATIONAL INTEREST.

6. ICJ: SIBAY CLARIFIED INFORMATION REPORTED PARA 4 REFTEL A. SAID INTL COURT OF JUSTICE MEMORANDUM LAST SUMMER STATED IT WOULD "CONSIDER" TAKING UP JURISDICTIONAL ISSUE ON AEGEAN DISPUTE. GREEKS FOUR MONTHS AGO FILED MEMORANDUM SETTING FORTH THEIR ARGUMENTS REQUESTING ICJ JURISDICTION. TURKS MUST REPLY IN APRIL. SIBAY HAS MEETING END JAN IN BERN WITH INTL LEGAL TEAM TO STUDY TURKISH POSITION. HE SAID SOVIETS HAD PERSUADED THEIR JUDGE ON ICJ TO SUPPORT TURKISH POSITION ON SISMİK EXPLORATION ISSUE. ANKARA WAS SURPRISED HOW FAST SOVIETS WERE ABLE TO ACT ON SHORT NOTICE.

7. NEW TURKISH FORNMIN: NEW FONMIN WAS ADVISER TO ECEVIT WHILE OUT OF GOVT. SIBAY KNEW HIM DURING EXPERIENCE IN ANKARA. APPEARS TO BE FLEXIBLE, INTELLIGENT, WILLING TO PLAY SECONDARY ROLE BEHIND ECEVIT'S LEADERSHIP IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

8. DCA: SIBAY SAID TURKISH TEAM VISITED WASHINGTON
DURING UNGA FOR TALKS ON POINT BY POINT BASIS OF
POSSIBLE ITEMS THAT COULD BE APPROVED UNDER DEFENSE
COOPERATION AGMT. HE SAID THERE HAD BEEN CONSIDERATION OF
HOLDING FOLLOW UP EXPERTS MEETING IN BERN.
WARNER

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